

25 February 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 25 February 1981Admiral Inman was in the chair. The Director was at the EOB.

25X1

Stein noted that McMahon was briefing Representative James C. Wright, Jr. (D., TX) on the Canadian evacuation of six hostages from Iran last year. Admiral Inman said the House Armed Services Committee has prepared a report which is critical of the handling of the hostage situation, and the briefing of Representative Wright ~~is~~ *maybe* an attempt by the House leadership to dampen down the criticism.

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A general discussion ensued about a request made by Representative J. Kenneth Robinson (R., VA) to for a paper on the question of Soviet resources devoted to intelligence. Admiral Inman discussed the origin of the request and the need to provide the data to Congress, particularly in view of the fact that we will be requesting relief from some of the restrictions on CI operations. Admiral Inman said ~~the data would also be helpful~~ *data would* to NSA and the DDO and asked Clarke to have a paper completed by summer. (Action: D/NFAC)

25X1

In response to question on how to handle briefings requested by Senator Denton's Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee. Admiral Inman said this is a Senate problem and all requests for briefings should be forwarded to the SSCI for its approval. noted that Mr. Denton's Subcommittee and the SSCI have requested briefings on counterintelligence and terrorism.

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reported that the Director will present the State of Intelligence briefing to the SSCI on 2 March.

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Silver reported that he was to brief Mike O'Neil, Chief Counsel of HPSCI, on the proposals for E.O. 12036.

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SECRET

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[REDACTED]

In response to Hugel's question about the hiring freeze, [REDACTED] said that no decision on exemptions has yet been made by OMB. Admiral Inman instructed Koehler to go back to OMB and tell them if no decision is made today, the DCI will call the D/OMB tomorrow. Admiral Inman said that under the rubric of defense needs NSA was exempted from the freeze and able to recoup some of its projected manpower losses. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Taylor announced that FBIS will be 40 years old this week, and he has asked the DCI to sign a letter to FBIS and to request the President to sign one. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Admiral Inman noted that he will routinely question why certain things are being done by Agency components. He told attendees that this in no way indicates if he is for or against a program but is his way of educating himself. He noted this practice has stood him in good stead for many years and he intends to continue. Admiral Inman said he would like to have the working levels of the Agency aware of this so there is no apprehension on their part. [REDACTED]

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